

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adam Chapin on July 27, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 15, line 2, the phrase "between upper and lower portions" has been replaced by - - into an inner diameter- -.

Claim 18, line 2, the phrase "between upper and lower portions" has been replaced by - - into an inner diameter- -.

Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled.

#### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

The first full paragraph on page 10 of the original specification filed September 14, 2005 which begins with "As particularly shown in detail in Fig. 4, the annular lower casing 5" has been replaced by the following amended paragraph:

As particularly shown in detail in Fig. 4, the annular lower casing 5 having a through hole 21 concentric with the through hole 11 is integrally formed by including an annular base portion 22; an upper cylindrical portion 24 which is integrally formed on a radially substantially central portion of an upper surface 23 of the annular base portion 22 and on which the annular upper surface 4 is formed, further, the upper cylindrical portion 24 having a cylindrical side surface 29 opposed to the cylindrical side surface 13 of the cylindrical portion 14 of the upper casing 3, an outer peripheral cylindrical surface of the upper cylindrical portion 24 has a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of an

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outer peripheral annular surface of the annular base portion 22 and an inner peripheral cylindrical surface of the upper cylindrical portion 24 has a diameter that is larger than an inner peripheral annular surface of the annular base portion 22; a lower cylindrical portion 26 formed integrally on a radially substantially central portion of a lower surface 25 of the annular base portion 22; an inner peripheral-side cylindrical projecting portion 27 integrally projecting upward from the annular upper surface 4 on a radially inner peripheral side, an outer peripheral cylindrical surface of the lower cylindrical portion 26 has a diameter that is smaller than the diameter of the outer peripheral annular surface of the annular base portion 22 and an inner peripheral cylindrical surface of the lower cylindrical portion 26 has a diameter that is larger than the inner peripheral annular surface of the annular base portion 22; an outer peripheral-side cylindrical projecting portion 28 integrally projecting upward from the annular upper surface 4 on a radially outer peripheral side; and an engaged hook portion 30 formed on the cylindrical side surface 29. The cylindrical side surface 13 is disposed radially inwardly of the cylindrical portion 14, while the cylindrical side surface 29 opposed to the cylindrical side surface 13 is disposed radially outwardly of the upper cylindrical portion 24.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-4, 6-18 are allowed.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES PILKINGTON whose telephone number is (571)272-5052. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7-3.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on (571)272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JAMES PILKINGTON/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3656  
7/28/11